UNITED
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General Assembly

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A/C.6/51/L.2
23 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SIXTH COMMITTEE

PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE SIXTH COMMITTEE*

	Approximate dates of consideration
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its twenty-ninth session [148]	23-24 September 1996
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [150]	25-30 September 1996
Human resources management (Reform of the internal system of justice in the United Nations Secretariat) [120]	30 September-1 October 1996
Progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order [152]	1 October 1996
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [151]	2-4 October 1996
Convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses [144]	7-25 October 1996
Establishment of an international criminal court [147]	28-31 October 1996

* As adopted at its 3rd meeting, on 23 September 1996.

	Approximate dates of consideration
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [151]	1 November 1996 1/
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its forty-eighth session [146]	4-15 November 1996
United Nations Decade of International Law [145]	18-20 November 1996
Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts [142] ..	21 November 1996
Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives [143] .	22 November 1996
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [149]	25 November 1996
Reserve	26-27 November 1996

1/ It was agreed that, if need be, some additional time could be allocated to item 151.

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A/C.6/51/L.3
31 October 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
SIXTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 144

CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE NON-NAVIGATIONAL USES OF INTERNATIONAL WATERCOURSES

Report of the Working Group of the Whole for the elaboration of a convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses

1. The Working Group of the Whole, convened pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/52 of 9 December 1994, met from 7 to 25 October 1996 to elaborate a convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses.

2. The Working Group elected Mr. Chusei Yamada (Japan) as its Chairman and Mr. Hans Lammers (Netherlands) as the Chairman of the Drafting Committee. During this period, the Working Group held 14 meetings and the Drafting Committee held 19 meetings. The report of the Drafting Committee (A/C.6/51/NUW/WG/L.1 and Corr.1 and 2, Add.1, Add.2 and Corr.1, Add.3 and Corr.1 and Add.4) was introduced by its Chairman, as reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.6/51/SR.24). While a substantial number of draft articles have been worked out in the Drafting Committee, a number of core issues remain to be resolved.

3. Accordingly, the Working Group will need more time to complete its work.

4. The Working Group recommends that the General Assembly, on a report of the Sixth Committee, convene a second session of the Working Group as soon as possible to continue its work, as set out in General Assembly resolution 49/52, building on the work already carried out by the Drafting Committee and the Working Group, as reflected in their reports, and with a view to completing the elaboration of the Convention.

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31 October 1996

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Fifty-first session
SIXTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 144

CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE NON-NAVIGATIONAL USES OF INTERNATIONAL WATERCOURSES

France and Egypt: draft resolution

Convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that successful codification and progressive development of the rules of international law governing the non-navigational uses of international watercourses would assist in promoting and implementing the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking into account the existence of bilateral or multilateral agreements governing the non-navigational uses of international watercourses, which should not be affected by the adoption of a new international instrument unless the parties to those agreements have otherwise decided,

Also taking into account the fact that, despite the existence of a number of bilateral treaties and regional agreements, the use of international watercourses is still based in part on general principles and rules of customary law,

Recalling its resolution 49/52 of 9 December 1994, by which it decided that the Sixth Committee should convene, at the beginning of the fifty-first session, as a Working Group of the Whole to elaborate a framework convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses on the basis of the draft articles adopted by the International Law Commission,

Noting that some progress was achieved in the elaboration of the convention but that the Working Group was unable to complete its task,

1. Decides that, at the earliest possible date during the fifty-second session of the General Assembly, the Sixth Committee shall convene a second session of the Working Group of the Whole for a period of at least two weeks to complete the elaboration of a framework convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses;

2. Also decides that the Working Group of the Whole shall continue its work, during its second session, building on the work already carried out by the Drafting Committee and the Working Group, as reflected in their reports, 1/ including the oral report of the President of the Drafting Committee; 2/

3. Further decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session an item entitled "Framework convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses".

1/ A/C.6/51/NUW/WG/L.1 and Corr.1 and 2, Add.1, Add.2, and Corr.1, Add.3 and Corr.1 and Add.4; and A/C.6/51/L.3.

2/ See A/C.6/51/SR.24.

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31 October 1996

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Fifty-first session
SIXTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 144

CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE NON-NAVIGATIONAL USES OF INTERNATIONAL WATERCOURSES

Brazil: draft resolution

Convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that successful codification and progressive development of the rules of international law governing the non-navigational uses of international watercourses would assist in promoting and implementing the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 49/52 of 9 December 1994, by which it decided that the Sixth Committee should convene, at the beginning of the fifty-first session, as a Working Group of the Whole to elaborate a framework convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses on the basis of the draft articles adopted by the International Law Commission,

Noting that some progress was achieved in the elaboration of the convention but that the Working Group was unable to complete its task,

1. Decides that the Working Group of the Whole of the Sixth Committee shall convene again for a period of two weeks between 27 January and 7 February 1997 to complete the task assigned to it in resolution 49/52;

2. Also decides that on the completion of its work the Working Group shall report directly to the General Assembly;

3. Further decides that the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 of resolution 49/52 shall continue to apply, and that the methods of work and procedures outlined in the annex to the present resolution shall be followed.

ANNEX

Methods of work and procedures

1. The Working Group of the Whole shall maintain its Drafting Committee, which shall only consider the provisions of the draft articles prepared by the International Law Commission that it was unable to consider in its previous meetings, namely, articles 7 and 33, as well as the draft preamble and the set of final clauses prepared by the Secretariat. 1/

2. The basic texts before the Working Group of the Whole shall be the articles worked out by the Drafting Committee contained in its report, 2/ and in the additional report presented pursuant to paragraph 1 above.

3. The Working Group of the Whole shall endeavour to adopt all texts by general agreement. Failing such an agreement within a reasonable period of time, it will take its decisions in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

1/ A/C.6/51/NUW/DC/CRP.2.

2/ A/C.6/51/NUW/WG/L.1 and Corr.1 and 2, Add.1, Add.2, and Corr.1, Add.3 and Corr.1 and Add.4.

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A/C.6/51/L.6
5 November 1996

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Fifty-first session
SIXTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 145

UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

Netherlands and Russian Federation: draft resolution

1999 action dedicated to the centennial of the first International Peace Conference and to the closing of the United Nations Decade of International Law

The General Assembly,

Noting that the year 1999 will mark the one hundredth anniversary of the historic first International Peace Conference, held at The Hague on the initiative of Russia,

Recalling its resolution 44/23 of 17 November 1989, by which it proclaimed the United Nations Decade of International Law, to begin in 1989 and conclude in 1999, marking the centennial of the first International Peace Conference,

Recognizing that the first and the second International Peace Conferences, as well as the League of Nations and the United Nations subsequently, have significantly encouraged progressive development and codification of international law and thereby contributed to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing also the invaluable contribution of the first International Peace Conference to the settling or resolving of international disputes or situations which can cause the infringement of peace, by adopting the Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes, 1/

1/ See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907 (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

Recalling that the Final Act of the second International Peace Conference incorporated a proposal to convene a third international peace conference,

Recalling that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to maintain international peace and security, inter alia, by means of settling or resolving international disputes or situations that can cause the infringement of peace,

Recalling that, according to resolution 44/23, one of the main purposes of the Decade of International Law is "to promote means and methods for the settlement of disputes between States, including resort to and full respect for the International Court of Justice",

Recalling also that at the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Sixth Committee convened the Working Group on the United Nations Decade of International Law with a view to preparing generally acceptable recommendations on the programme of activities for the Decade, and that the Working Group has been reconvened at all subsequent sessions of the General Assembly and was requested at the fiftieth session to continue its work,

Stressing the need to continue efforts with a view to strengthening international peace and security, achieving full compliance with international law and promoting its progressive development,

Recalling that in its resolution 44/23 it requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States and appropriate international bodies, as well as of non-governmental organizations working in the field, on the programme for the Decade and on appropriate action to be taken during the Decade, including the possibility of holding a third international peace conference or other suitable international conference at the end of the Decade,

Noting that the Heads of State and Governments of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries at their ninth summit meeting reaffirmed General Assembly resolution 44/23 and the strong support of the Movement for the programme of the United Nations Decade of International Law, including the recommendation of holding a third international peace conference at the conclusion of the Decade on the occasion of the one hundredth anniversary of the first International Peace Conference,

Noting also the proposal by the Russian Federation for a third international peace conference with a view to considering international law and order in the post-cold-war world at the threshold of the twenty-first century,

Convinced that the United Nations could assist significantly with its expertise and knowledge to the implementation of such a proposal,

1. Considers it desirable to draft a programme of action dedicated to the centennial of the first International Peace Conference and to the closing of the United Nations Decade of International Law;

2. Requests the Governments of the Russian Federation and the Netherlands to arrange, as a matter of urgency, a preliminary discussion with other interested Member States on the substantive content of 1999 action and to seek,

in this respect, the cooperation of the International Court of Justice, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as other relevant organizations;

3. Calls upon the competent United Nations organs, programmes and specialized agencies to study the possibilities of providing assistance to that end;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session under the item entitled "United Nations Decade of International Law", the sub-item entitled "1999 action dedicated to the centennial of the first International Peace Conference and to the closing of the United Nations Decade of International Law".